

DOC Advisory Meeting
Warden Mahoney Discussion Topics Handout
4/7/06

Inmate Transportation

Effective 7/1/06:

- TransCor contract will expire and MSP will take over the transportation of inmates that is currently being done by TransCor
- County Sheriffs will still be required to provide the first initial transport from the county to MSP.
- MSP has review the North West Shuttle transportation piece and is working out the details for this part of the transportation system
- MSP is adding 8 additional transportation officers and one administrative support position to handle transport scheduling and coordination. These staff will be hired and in training prior to 6/1/06
- Additional transport vehicles ordered and will be on hand prior to 5/1/06
- Currently working out a number of issues with the Local 4700 union regarding staffing, hiring, work hours, etc.
- Existing cost of the TransCor contract is approximately \$400,000. The cost of MSP will be in the same dollar area. However, MSP inmate transports will include a escort (chase) vehicle which is not done with current county sheriff or TransCor transports. This is a critical piece and adds additional costs, however the past two escapes (by other transport entities) may have been prevented if an escort vehicle would have been used.

MSP Staff Recruitment

- MSP will have zero open correctional officer positions with the new training class starting 4/12/06
- MSP has made great strides in filling the open correctional officer positions. Items that have helped are:
 - CO initial hire pay increase from \$10.78/hr to \$12/hr
 - Staff recruitment bonus for assistance in hiring positions
 - Information put out to public on the department and open staff positions
 - Aggressive Human Resources and MSP recruitment efforts
- Due to current correctional officer situation MSP is looking at opening the Low Side Overflow Unit (E Unit) by 5/15/06 to assist in the inmate overcrowding situation. This unit is the old reception unit that has been vacant since 5/04 due to lack of staff to operate the unit. This unit will house approximately 80 low custody inmates.

Staff Transportation Pilot Project

- Initial 90 days pilot project has been completed. Vendors providing bus transportation services were Tucker
- The pilot project has been extended until 1/30/07
- Bid in process for the selection of the vendor for the extension of the pilot project time period
- Pilot project was geared towards correctional officers working the three shifts
- Approximately 46 staff (32 Butte and 14 Anaconda) have been taking part in the transportation project each shift. Approximately 50% of correctional officer staff per shift.
- State is paying one half of the cost per person. Total cost is \$4 per person for Anaconda roundtrip and \$5 per person for Butte round trip.